

A RESOLUTION to honor Jim and Ann Shipley, winners of the
Tennessee Department of Environment and
Conservation's Agriculture/Forestry
Environmental Stewardship Award.

WHEREAS, the laudable work ethic of the farmer is undeniably at the very heart of Tennessee's great tradition of service and volunteerism, and agriculture as an industry is integral to Tennessee's economic well-being as is business and other commercial interests; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee honor those agriculturists who emerge as leaders in an industry that is crucial to our state and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Jim and Ann Shipley of Speedwell are such persons who, with their 450-acre Claiborne County dairy farm, were recently honored with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's first Agriculture/Forestry Environmental Stewardship Award; and

WHEREAS, an innovative and progressive farm family, the Shipleys were chosen for their exceptional practices, including their use of animal wastes as fertilizer, their timber management program, no-till crop farming, fencing cattle away from creeks and woodlands, recycling of newspapers by using them as stall bedding; and

WHEREAS, considering themselves "true farmers", the Shipleys were both raised in farm families; Mr. Shipley received bachelor's degrees in biology and chemistry from Lincoln Memorial University and Mrs. Shipley is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and a licensed veterinarian; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Shipley are proud to carry on the traditions of their families by raising their two children, William and Beth, on their own farm, the Hickory Corner Dairy; and

WHEREAS, the Shipleys have proven themselves to be immensely valuable agriculturists and environmentalists, as well as worthy citizens of our great state, and they should be recognized for their contributions to farming and conservation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and congratulate Jim and Ann Shipley on receiving the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's first Agriculture/Forestry Environmental Stewardship Award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.